

iii. an intermediate back location positioned generally at a junctive area of said upper and lower back areas;

iv. right and left shoulder locations;

v. a waist location;

said backpack comprising:

a. a carrying pouch defining therein a load carrying area, said pouch having front and rear panel portions, side portions, and top end bottom portions;

b. a shoulder strap assembly which in use comprises:

i. a back strap section having a lower end connecting at a central rear location of the pouch and engaging at least an upper rear central location of the pouch, said back strap section comprising right and left back strap portions which extend forwardly, upwardly and outwardly over the upper back area to the right and left shoulder locations to exert right and left force components directed from said lower end connection upwardly, outwardly and forwardly to said right and left shoulder locations.

ii. a shoulder strap section having right and left shoulder strap portions extending over right and left shoulders of the person, and having rear ends connected to upper ends of said right and left back strap portions;

iii. a front strap section having right and left front strap portions having upper and lower front strap ends, with the upper front strap ends connecting to front ends of the shoulder straps, and with the front strap portions extending downwardly and rearwardly with lower ends thereof connecting to said pouch at forward side connecting locations on

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said pouch, and with said front strap portions exerting upwardly and forwardly directed force components from the connecting locations of the pouch to the forward ends of the shoulder strap portions.

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- c. a waist strap having rear ends connecting to respective side portions of the pouch, front ends connecting to one another so that said waist strap extends around the waist of a person in a manner to exert right and left forward force components on the pouch;
  - d. said pouch, said shoulder strap assembly and said waist strap portion being configured and sized relative to the person's body in the manner that:
    - i. the front panel of the pouch is positioned against the lower back area of the person;
    - ii. the waist strap extends around the person's body at a waist location thereof;
    - 70 iii. the lower connecting ends of the front strap portions connect to the pouch at sides of the person's lower back area;so that the pouch is located and supported by;
    - i. vertical force components that are reacted into said pouch along a vertical axis positioned at a central location between the side portions and between the front and rear panels of the pouch;
    - ii. forward force components reacted at side locations and central locations of the pouch;

whereby the pouch is positioned, held and supported to remain at a substantially same position relative to the person's body and thus closely follows movements of the person's body.

17. The backpack as recited in claim 16, wherein said backstrap section comprises a lower central back strap

connected to the pouch, extending upwardly and forwardly, and connecting at an upper end thereof to lower ends of said right and left back strap portions which then extend forwardly, upwardly and outwardly to the right and left shoulder locations.

18. The backpack as recited in claim 17, wherein said lower back strap portion has lengthwise adjusting means to properly position the lower end connection at the pouch relative to the shoulder strap portions.

19. The backpack as recited in claim 18, wherein the length of the right and left back strap portions have length adjusting means relative to the lower central back strap portion and to the shoulder strap portions.

20. The backpack as recited in claim 19, wherein the front strap portions have lengthwise adjustment means relative to the shoulder strap portions and their connecting locations to the pouch to properly locate outside forward portions of the pouch relative to the shoulder strap portions.

21. The backpack as recited in claim 17, wherein the back strap section and the front strap section both have vertical adjustment means relative to the shoulder strap section, whereby the pouch and the shoulder straps can be properly positioned with the appropriate length dimensions of the back strap section and the front strap section.

22. The backpack as recited in claim 16, wherein the back strap section and the front strap section both have vertical adjustment means relative to the shoulder strap section, whereby the pouch and the shoulder straps can be properly positioned with the appropriate length dimensions of the back strap section and the front strap section.

23. The backpack as recited in claim 16, wherein the lower ends of the front strap portions connect to said pouch at each at a lower side front location of the pouch.

24. The backpack as recited in claim 23, wherein there are right and left auxiliary waist straps, each extending from a related upper front side connecting location downwardly and forwardly to connect to the waist strap at a location forward from the connecting location of the waist strap portions to the pouch.